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CIA

WASHINGTON, (AP)-RICHARD M. HELMS WAS SWORN IN AS DIRECTOR OF THE NATION'S MOST SECRET OPERATION--THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY--AT A WIDE OPEN WHITE HOUSE CEREMONY TODAY.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON PAID HIGH TRIBUTE TO HELM AND HIS PREDECESSORS AND ALL THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED ALMOST UNKNOWN IN THE CIA.

"I HAVE YET TO MEET AN 007," THE PRESIDENT SAID WITH A GRIN.

BUT HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE HAS MET DOZENS OF MEN IN THE CIA WHO ARE DEVOTED, DEDICATED, AND MOTIVATED BY THE HIGHEST PURPOSES IN INNUMERABLE FIELDS WHERE THEIR ANALYSIS IS VITAL. HE SAID THEIR GREATEST TRIUMPH COMES WITHOUT RECOGNITION IN THE PATIENT READING, HOUR AFTER HOUR, OF TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS.

THE EAST ROOM OF THE WHITE HOUSE WAS JAMMED FOR THE CEREMONY AT WHICH THE 53-YEAR-OLD HELMS TOOK THE OATH OF OFFICE AS SUCCESSOR TO ADM. WILLIAM F. RABORN. RABORN WAS ON HAND. SO WAS ALLEN W. DULLES, A FORMER CIA DIRECTOR, FBI DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER, MEMBERS OF THE CABINET AND CONGRESS AND MILITARY BRASS, DOZENS OF PEOPLE WHO MIGHT HAVE BEEN CIA AGENTS BUT WEREN'T IDENTIFIED --AND,NIN THE PRESS CORPS, THE WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOVIET NEWS AGENCY TASS.

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JOHNSON LAUDED HELMS' JUDGMENT, INTELLIGENCE, AND, ABOVE ALL, "HIS GREAT PUBLIC INTEGRITY." HE SAID HELMS HAS DEVOTED HIS ENTIRE PUBLIC CAREER TO THE SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY.

THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT THE WORK OF MEN LIKE RABORN AND HELMS AND THEIR COLLEAGUES IS NOT OFTEN ACKNOWLEDGED PUBLICLY AND IS DAMNED MORE OFTEN THAN PRAISED. HE SAID HE IS ALWAYS READING SOME-THING IN THE PAPERS THAT DISTORTS CIA OPERATIONS. BUT THE MEN CONDUCTING THEM GO ABOUT THEIR WORK, HE SAID, WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO STAND UP OR SPEAK UP FOR THEMSELVES.

N JOHNSON APPOINTED RABORN TO THE CIA COMMAND ABOUT 14 MONTHS AGO AND AT THE SAME TIME MADE HELMS HIS DEPUTY. HE SAID RABORN HAD AGREED TO SERVE ONLY UNTIL JOHNSON DECIDED ON A PERMANENT SUCCESSOR, AND NOW HE AND RABORN HAVE DECIDED THEY HAD FOUND THE BEST MAN POSSIBLE. AND HE SAID RABORN WILL BE COMING BACK TO THE WHITE HOUSE AT HIS CONVENIENCE "TO RECEIVE AN AWARD FOR A JOB WELL DONE."

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